

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The transport mechanism 7 has two transport rollers 10a and 10b placed with a predetermined spacing, a transport belt 11 as transport means placed on the transport rollers 10a and 10b, a nip roller 12 placed facing the transport roller 10b of a driven roller, and a transport motor 13 for driving the transport roller 10a of a drive roller. The transport belt 11 has a flushing area 21 formed like a groove on the outer face of the belt, as shown in FIG. 2. The flushing area 12-area 21 (described later in detail) is used as an area where flushing is performed. The nip roller 12 is provided for pressing the paper 5 against the transport belt 11. The transport belt 11 is formed on a surface with an adhesive layer and the paper 5 is pressed against the transport belt 11 by the nip roller 12, whereby the paper 5 sticks to the adhesive layer and is transported under the print head section 8 in this state. To prevent the nip roller 12 from dropping into a groove 21a in the flushing area 21 when the groove 21a comes to the position of the nip roller 12, frames 32 for supporting rotation shafts 31 of the transport rollers 10a and 10b are provided with abutment parts 33 for abutting the nip roller 12, as shown in FIG. 3. When the flushing area 21 does not come to the position facing the nip roller 12 (see the left half of FIG. 3), the abutment part 33 gives a press force for fixing paper to the transport belt 11 with the paper (not shown) sandwiched between the transport belt 11 and the nip roller 12. When the flushing area 21 comes to the position facing the nip roller 12 (see the right half of FIG. 3), the abutment part 33 abuts the nip roller 12 so as to prevent the nip roller 12 from dropping into the groove 21a. The rotation drive force of the transport motor 13 is transmitted to the transport roller 10a by a belt 14 placed on the drive shaft of the transport motor 13 and the transport roller 10a.